

ARKANSAS

Between 2008 and 2012, institutions and individuals in Arkansas received \$6 million from the National Endowment for the Humanities and Arkansas Humanities Council for projects that explore the human endeavor and preserve our cultural heritage.

Below are some examples.

- Carden Bottoms, in the Central Arkansas River Valley, is noted for exquisite Native American pottery, although little is known about the people who produced it. The **Arkansas Archaeological Survey** has received a \$240,000 grant to do research on artifacts removed during the last two centuries from Native American burial sites. Archaeologists and other specialists collaborated with members of the Caddo, Osage, and Quapaw nations.
- The **Fayetteville Public Library Foundation** has leveraged a \$600,000 challenge grant to raise almost \$1.8 million in non-federal funds to establish an endowment to support a humanities coordinator, library humanities programming, and humanities collection development. Serving urban and rural populations, the Fayetteville Public Library offers several special collections, including the Arkansas Collection, the Grace Keith Genealogical Collection, and the Roberta Fulbright Special Collection.
- The **African-American Cemetery Preservation and Documentation grant program**, administered by the Arkansas Humanities Council in collaboration with the Arkansas Archaeological Survey, supports efforts to research and preserve neglected African-American cemeteries. A recent grant supported a cell phone tour of these historic graveyards.
- The University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, received a \$249,885 grant to support its **Digital Institute for Archaeology**, a one-semester advanced training program on geospatial technologies critical to modern archaeological practice.
- The **Arts and Science Center for Southeast Arkansas**, Pine Bluff, received a \$4,150 grant to conduct a preservation assessment of its art collection, which includes 166 works by noted African-American artists including Romare Bearden, Jacob Lawrence, Benny Andrews, and Elizabeth Catlett.
- The **MacArthur Museum of Arkansas Military History**, Little Rock, received a \$1,000 grant to bring a NEH-sponsored traveling exhibition, *Lee and Grant*, to the museum and to support accompanying programs.
- Arkansas libraries received \$7,000 in grants for programming and exhibition expenses related to bringing **NEH traveling exhibitions** to their branches. The exhibitions included *Soul of a People: Voices from the Writers' Project*, *Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War*, *Lewis and Clark and the Indian Country*, and *Forever Free: Abraham Lincoln's Journey to Emancipation*.
- The **University of Arkansas, Monticello**, received two grants of about \$5,000 each for preservation and assessment training and supplies for the university library's archives and special collections, which document the history of Southeast Arkansas, the university, and the Ashley, Drew, and Northern railroads.

Talking POINTS.

NATIONWIDE

NEH supports programs and projects that contribute directly and dramatically to the cultural life and historical perspective of tens of millions of Americans.

Here are some examples.

PRESERVING THE FIRST DRAFT OF HISTORY

Nothing captures the character of a community or the spirit of an era better than its newspapers. *Chronicling America*, a partnership between NEH and the Library of Congress, is digitizing millions of pages taken from newspapers dating back to the early Republic, making it possible to search the pages online for any word or phrase—at no charge.

AMERICAN VOICES

The papers of prominent Americans are a vital part of our cultural heritage, and NEH funds many projects to assemble and preserve them, including complete sets of collected papers for ten presidents from Washington to Lincoln to Eisenhower as well as public figures such as Thomas Edison, Martin Luther King Jr., George Marshall, Emily Dickinson, Walt Whitman, and Mark Twain.

SUCCEEDING BY THE BOOK

Over the past forty-five years, scholars supported by Endowment grants have produced more than 7,000 books—including numerous classics such as Dumas Malone's *Jefferson and His Time*, James McPherson's *Battle Cry of Freedom*, and Louis Menand's *The Metaphysical Club: A Story of Ideas in America*—that have garnered scores of awards, including eighteen Pulitzer Prizes.

PAST AND PRESENT IN PIXELS

NEH investments in the digital humanities make it possible for a student to walk the corridors of the Temple of Karnak in ancient Egypt in virtual 3-D, or to visit the 1964–65 World's Fair held in New York. Spectral imaging has been used to create an online critical edition of explorer David Livingstone's previously unreadable field diary.

GENERATING PRIVATE SUPPORT

Almost \$2 billion in humanities support has been generated by the Challenge Grants program, which requires recipients to raise \$3 or \$4 in outside funds for every federal dollar they receive.

HISTORY ON SCREEN AND IN TOWN

NEH-supported films bring history alive. Twenty million Americans watched Ken Burns's *The War* (2007), and ten million saw *The Abolitionists* (2013). NEH also funds hundreds of exhibitions—not only blockbusters such as “King Tut” that make the heritage of other cultures accessible to the American public, but also smaller projects such as *Lincoln, the Constitution, and the Civil War* that reach classrooms across the country.

KEEPING TEACHERS UP-TO-DATE

Seminars, institutes, and workshops give teachers the opportunity to refresh and deepen their knowledge about the humanities through intense study. In the past three years, more than 2,100 college teachers and 7,500 schoolteachers have participated in NEH-supported programs, to the benefit of more than one million students.

REACHING ACROSS THE NATION

Last year, state humanities councils, NEH's affiliates in the fifty states, the District of Columbia and five U.S. territories put on 16,800 reading and discussion programs, 6,500 literacy programs, 4,000 speakers bureau presentations, 5,400 conferences, 1,750 Chautauqua events, 24,000 media programs, and 7,300 technology, preservation, and local history events. The 56 councils also sponsored 2,300 exhibitions.